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UNCLASSIFIED

15/22/28

Declassify: In Part_____

Exemption(s)

Chile Project (#\$199900030) U.S. Department of State (Release K Excise

n/a l Case Number \$199900030

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R 281413Z DEC 88 FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9532

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CI (WEISFEILER, BORIS) SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

REF: LETTER OF DECEMBER 12, 1988 FROM CONGRESSMAN FRANK

TO: THE HONORABLE BARNEY FRANK MEMBER OF CONGRESS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C., 20515

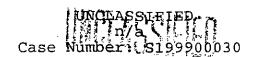
- 1. I REFER TO YOUR LETTER OF DECEMBER 12, 1988, REGARDING THE CASE OF BORIS WEISFEILER, BROTHER OF OLGA VEYSFEYLER.
- 2. MR. WEISFEILER DISAPPEARED WHILE HIKING IN THE NUBLE VALLEY IN SOUTHERN CHILE, AND WAS REPORTEDLY LAST SEEN ON JANUARY 4, 1985 NEAR THE CONFLUENCE OF THE NUBLE AND LOS SAUCES RIVERS. HIS REMAINS HAVE NEVER BEEN RECOVERED, AND THE ONLY EVIDENCE EVER RECOVERED WAS HIS BACKPACK, WHICH WAS FOUND 10 DAYS LATER. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY CHILEAN AUTHORITIES, BUT NONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO EXPLAIN CONCLUSIVELY WHAT HAPPENED TO MR. WEISFEILER. THE OFFICIAL COURT INQUEST CONCLUDED "PROBABLE DEATH BY DROWNING." THIS IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY, AS THE COUNTRY IN WHICH MR. WEISFEILER WAS UNCLASS IF TED

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HIKING IS WILD AND THE RIVERS ARE REPORTEDLY TREACHEROUS.

- 3. NEVERTHELESS, THE EMBASSY STILL CONSIDERS THE CASE OPEN BECAUSE OF THE ABSENCE OF A SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION OF WHAT HAPPENED, AND BECAUSE NO REMAINS HAVE BEEN RECOVERED. EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE VISITED THE AREA TO INVESTIGATE AND CONDUCT ENQUIRIES ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, MOST RECENTLY IN JANUARY 1988. NUMEROUS PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THE AREA OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE HAVE BEEN QUERIED. WE HAVE FOLLOWED UP ON OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL LEADS THAT MIGHT HAVE SOME BEARING ON THE CASE, ALL TO NO AVAIL. WE REMAIN ALERT, HOWEVER, TO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT LEAD US TO CONCLUDE WITH A REASONABLE DEGREE OF CERTAINTY WHAT HAPPENED CN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MR. WEISFEILER.
- 4. IF I MAY BE OF ASSISTANCE IN THE FUTURE, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO WRITE.

CHARLES A. GILLESPIE, JR. AMBASSADOR AMERICAN EMBASSY, SANTIAGO GILLESPIE

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